

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00671 250127Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----030958 250133Z /72

O 250101Z FEB 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9749
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00671

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: PBOR, PDEV, ET, SO
SUBJECT: HORNOF AFRICA: UN UPDATE

REF: STATE 046218

1. POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL US/UK/FRENCH APPROACHES IN
TRIPOLI APPEARS OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS. MAURITIAN FOMIN
APPARENTLY NEVER DID GO TO TRIPOLI, GABONESE MINISTER
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BONGO LEFT FEB 21 AND COMMISSIONER GARBA SET TO LEAVE AM
FEB 25. UKUN HAS READ TO US A CABLE FROM BRITISH EMBASSY
TRIPOLI TO THE EFFECT THAT THE US AND FRENCH CHIEFS OF
MISSION IN TRIPOLI HAVE, IN ANY EVENT, ALREADY MADE THE
RELEVANT POINTS TO NIGERIAN AND GABONESE DELEGATIONS. HMG
WILL (OR HAS ALREADY) APPROACH MAURITIANS IN PORT LOUIS TO
REINFORCE POINT OF OAU/SECURITY COUNCIL COMPLEMENTARILY.

2. FRENCH UN MISSION REPORTS GABON PRESIDENTIAL COUNSELLOR PRESENT IN TRIPOLI FULLY SHARED WESTERN VIEW THAT OAU AND COUNCIL ACTION COULD MORE FORWARD TOGETHER. FRENCH ALSO RELAYED REPORT FROM THEIR AMB IN MOGADISCIO THAT PRESIDENT SIAD OPPOSED A SC MEETING BECAUSE AN "EARLY CONVENING" OF A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE OAU WAS NOW UNDER PREPARATION TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM.

3. FRENCH MISSION ALSO REPORT "QUITE POSITIVE" REACTION FROM PARIS TO AARON MISSION. (UNNAMED) ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY TOLD FRENCH IN ADDIS ABABA THAT GOE WAS "QUITE ENCOURAGED" BY AARON VISIT. FRENCH EMBASSY MOSCOW HAS REPORTED THAT SOVIETS ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT EFFECT OF AARON MISSION AND ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING WAYS TO DISCREDIT IT.

4. FINALLY, SOMALI PERMREP HUSSEN ASKED TO SEE AMB LEONARD "URGENTLY" FEB 24. HUSSEN HAD SOMEHOW GOT COPY OF WESTERN DRAFT ELEMENTS AND SOMEWHAT BITTERLY CRITICIZED IT AS A "ONE-SIDED" VEHICLE FOR THE REMOVAL OF SOMALI FORCES FROM THE OGADEN. LEONARD AND MISOFF EXPLAINED WESTERN POSITIONS TO HUSSEN ONCE AGAIN BUT MADE NO DENT. ANGRIER THAN WE HAVE YET SEEN HIM, HUSSEN SAID OAU REFUSED TO SEE DANGERS POSED BY SOVIETS AND CUBANS IN AFRICA AND THAT IF US CONTINUED TO SHARE THIS MYOPIA, US "WOULD PAY THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PRICE." HE COMPARED SOMALI BACKING FOR SELF-DETERMINATION IN OGADEN TO ARAB GOAL OF REGAINING LANDS CONQUERED IN 1967. AMERICA APPARENTLY ESPOUSED THE ERINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION ONLY WHEN IT SUITED US INTERESTS BUT, AFTERALL, "AMERICA HAS POWER AND POWER, IT SEEMS, IS WHAT RUNS THE WORLD."

5. COMMENT: CONSIDERING CERTAINTY OF FURTHER UNAUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTION OF WESTERN FIVE PAPERS ON THE HORN, DEPT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER WIDER OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION OF WESTERN AGREED TEXT OF SUGGESTED PRINCIPLES FOR A SETTLEMENT AND/OR ELEMENTS OF A DRAFT SC RESOLUTION. YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN00671
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780087-0059
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780212/aaaaajpi.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fde321cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 46218
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3472080
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HORNOF AFRICA: UN UPDATE
TAGS: PBOR, PDEV, ET, SO, UR, LY, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fde321cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014